

DONCASTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE
ANNUAL
REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1944

of the

Medical Officer of Health

A. PENMAN

M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Department, Nether Hall,
Doncaster.



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DONCASTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Nether Hall,
Doncaster.

August, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Doncaster Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health conditions of the District. It has been compiled in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Ministry of Health Circular 49/45.

Mr. Reynolds, Chief Sanitary Inspector, has submitted his Report, which I have appended.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the staff of the Public Health Department for their good work and loyal co-operation.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

A. PENMAN, M.D.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

A. Penman, M.D., Ch.B. (University of Edinburgh),
D.P.H., R.C.P.S. (Edinburgh and Glasgow).
Appointed May, 1935.

2. CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING
SUPERINTENDENT.

A. Reynolds, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certificate for Inspectors
of Meat and Other Foods. Appointed August, 1924.

3. SENIOR ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

E. K. Smith, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I., Certificate for Inspectors
of Meat and Other Foods. Appointed April, 1932.

4. JUNIOR ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

C. A. M. Young, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Appointed December, 1943.

5. ASSISTANT AND DISINFECTING INSPECTOR.

G. Stephenson. Appointed September, 1938.

6. CLERKS.

R. Baddiley. Appointed March, 1938.
E. Hewerdine. Appointed July, 1941.

OFFICES OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Nether Hall, Doncaster.

Telephone Numbers—Doncaster 3427, 3428, 3429 (three lines)

PUBLIC CLEANSING DEPOT OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sunnyside, Kirk Sandall.

Telephone Number—Barnby Dun 58.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	.....	.....	.....	.....	73,755
Registrar-General's Estimate of the resident civilian population	.....	.....	.....	.....	48,760
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to rate books	.....	.....	.....	.....	12,932
Rateable Value	.....	.....	.....	.....	£247,602
Sum represented by a penny rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	£970

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS—

	M.	F.	Total	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Population—23.9
Legitimate	603	494	1,097	
Illegitimate	38	29	67	
	<hr/> 641	<hr/> 523	<hr/> 1,164	(Birth Rate for England and Wales —17.6)

STILL BIRTHS—

	M.	F.	Total	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births—35.6
Legitimate	20	15	35	
Illegitimate	3	5	8	
	<hr/> 23	<hr/> 20	<hr/> 43	

DEATHS—

M.	F.	Total	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Population—8.8
240	190	430	

Death Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 Population—11.6
(Because of the difficulty of computation in war-time no comparability factor was supplied by the Registrar-General).

MATERNAL MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY.

		Doncaster Rural District	England and Wales
Incidence of Puerperal Pyrexia—			
Rates per 1,000 (live and still) births	.....	8.25	10.34
Mortality from—			
(a) Abortion with sepsis	.....	0.00	0.31
(b) Abortion without sepsis	.....	0.00	0.09
(c) Puerperal infections	.....	0.83	0.28
(d) Other maternal causes	.....	4.14	1.25
		<hr/> 4.97	<hr/> 1.93
Mortality per million women aged 15 to 45 years from—			
(a) Abortion with sepsis	.....	0	25
(b) Abortion without sepsis	.....	0	7

INFANTILE MORTALITY. RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.			Doncaster Rural District	England and Wales
	M.	F.	Total	
(a) Legitimate	27	21	48	41
(b) Illegitimate	—	1	1	23
	<hr/> 27	<hr/> 22	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 42
				46

GENERAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION

All Causes	.....	.....	.....	8.8	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	.....	.....	.....	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	0.00	0.03
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	0.02	0.02
Influenza	.....	.....	.....	0.23	0.12
Smallpox	.....	.....	.....	0.00	0.00
Measles	.....	.....	.....	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis (a) Respiratory			.....	0.43	0.52
(b) Other Forms			.....	0.12	0.10

POPULATION.

For the first time since the commencement of the War, apart from the year 1941, the Registrar General's estimate of the population has given an increase. The figure is 48,760, which is an increase of 290 over the 1943 estimate. The pre-war population was 50,280. Since then the natural increase,

that is the excess of live births over deaths, has been 3,529. In spite of that, the sources of information available to the Registrar General lead him to estimate the present population at 1,520 less than the pre-war figure. A total of 5,049 persons have thus disappeared—at least on paper.

BIRTHS.

There were 1,164 live births (M. 641 ; F. 523) or 167 more than in the previous year, giving a birth rate of 23.9 per 1,000 of the population. The birth rate of England and Wales was 17.6.

The 43 still births exceeded the 1943 figure by 5.

DEATHS.

430 deaths were recorded and the crude death rate was thus 8.8 per 1,000. The provisional estimate of the national death rate is 11.6.

The principal causes of death were:—	1944	Compare with 1943
Diseases of the Heart and Circulation including		
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	135	145
Cancer	62	64
Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Influenza, etc.	55	75
Congenital Causes (among infants)	32	19
Tuberculous Diseases	27	28
Accidents and Other Violent Causes	26	29

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The number of deaths among mothers as a result of 1,207 live and still births and an unknown number of pregnancies which did not reach term, was 6. Two died from toxæmia of pregnancy, two from abnormal conditions requiring operation, one from uræmia and nephritis, and one from puerperal sepsis.

The maternal mortality rate was 4.97 compared with 1.93 for England and Wales.

The measures taken to protect mothers are properly those of the County Council. They consist of a County midwife service, six ante-natal clinics, a consulting gynaecologist and medical aid in the home, and a series of maternity homes, which allow in practice (according to a recent estimate) for about one third of the births to take place there.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Forty-nine infants (M. 27 ; F. 22) died in 1944 before attaining the age of twelve months. Calculated per 1,000 live births, this gives an infantile mortality rate of 42, compared

with the provisional estimate of the rate for England and Wales of 46. The lowest figure for Doncaster Rural District was 41 in 1942, which the present rate exceeds only by 1. Thirty-two of the deaths were from congenital causes and twenty-nine occurred within the first four weeks of life.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES, 1935—1944.

Year	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Rate per 1,000 live births	59	61	55	48	56	67	61	41	54	42

INFANT DEATHS, 1944.

Cause of Death	Total		Under 4 wks.		4 wks. to 3 mths.		3 mths. to 6 mths.		6 mths. to 9 mths.		9 mths. to 12 mths.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (including Gastro Enteritis)	4	2	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	4	4	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Defects (Malformations, Atelectasis, and Birth Injuries)	8	3	6	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility and Icterus	4	1	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Developmental and Wasting Diseases	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Convulsions	2	2	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	3	6	1	2	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	1	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	27	22	16	13	7	4	4	4	—	1	—	—

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1944.

(Other than Tuberculosis)

Age and Sex Incidence.

Arranged in the manner prescribed by the Registrar-General.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Whooping Cough		Measles	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	4
1—3 ...	8	7	1	—	5	7	13	14
3—5 ...	14	13	2	2	6	4	23	28
5—10 ...	41	38	1	3	5	5	35	29
10—15 ...	13	34	4	3	—	—	2	2
15—25 ...	9	3	—	2	—	—	3	4
25 and over	3	8	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTAL ...	88	103	8	10	17	18	83	81

Age Group	Cerebro- Spinal Meningitis		Enteric Fever		Pneumonia		Erysipelas	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—5 ...	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—
5—15 ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
15—45 ...	—	1	—	—	9	4	1	—
45—65 ...	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	1
65 and over	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	1	—	—	24	7	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...					—	10		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum					5	6		

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, PER 1,000 OF CIVILIAN POPULATION.

NOTIFICATIONS				Doncaster Rural District	England and Wales
Typhoid Fever	.....	.....	.....	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	.....	.....	.....	0.00	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	0.02	0.05
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	3.92	2.40
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	0.72	2.49
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	0.37	0.58
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	0.04	0.29
Measles	.....	.....	.....	3.36	4.16
Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	0.64	0.97

SCARLET FEVER.

Tonsillitis with erythematous rash continued to be highly endemic during the year, with 191 cases notified and confirmed, as against 224 for the previous year. Only two weeks

in the year were free of notifications, but the periods of mid-February to mid-May and mid-September to mid-November were definitely peak periods with a small up-curve in July. From investigation among contacts of notified cases it is obvious that the main cause of the spread of the infection is the missed case of streptococcal tonsillitis either without rash or with a very faint rash.

About five of the cases notified could be classified as return cases (i.e., caused by infection brought back from the isolation hospital by discharged cases).

There was no evidence of school contact playing anything but a minor role in the spread of infection and the only action necessary was to exclude individual contacts.

There was no death from scarlet fever. Late adenitis, otitis media and post-scarlatinal "rheumatism" were noteworthy features of the type of infection prevailing in the district.

The 170 cases removed to the isolation hospital included three in which the diagnosis was not confirmed, while twenty-four were treated at home.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were 18 cases, in which the diagnosis was confirmed, compared with 14 during the previous year. This increase may have been due to infection imported by evacuees, since five cases occurred during June and July, when the South of England was being "fly-bombed" and evacuations were taking place. One such case was detected on arrival, but of course only evacuees in organised parties could be medically examined.

Compared with the five years 1935-1939, when the average annual number of cases was 98, 18 cases for 1944 was very good for an industrial population of 50,000 and showed the lasting value of immunisation. In the five year period quoted there were five deaths per annum. There was one death during 1944.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN IMMUNISED.

Date	Under 5 years (Possible 80%)		Aged 5—15 years (Possible 100%)	
31-12-40	26	.....	33
31-12-41	25	.....	35
31-12-42	44	.....	55
31-12-43	49	.....	67
31-12-44	52	.....	75

Parents should apply to the nearest Child Welfare Centre (Armthorpe, Askern, Bawtry, Edlington, Kirk Sandall, Rossington and Sprotborough) or to the Nether

Hall, Doncaster. Immunisation may also be carried out by private medical attendants free of charge to the parents. For this latter service please apply to the Medical Officer of Health, Nether Hall, Doncaster.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

Every two or three years there are epidemics of measles generally accompanied by similar outbreaks of whooping cough. 1944 was not one of these epidemic years. There were 164 cases of measles compared with 793 in the previous year, and 35 cases of whooping cough compared with 108.

During the peak years of measles and whooping cough it has not been possible with War-time staff to take all the measures one would like to in order to ensure that mild and unrecognised cases were diagnosed and isolated. Parents are reminded that these diseases are now notifiable and that it is a punishable offence to allow children so affected to mix with others in public places.

ACUTE PRIMARY AND INFLUENZAL PNEUMONIA.

There were 31 cases notified compared with 40 in the previous year. The number of deaths was 19, but it is not known whether the pneumonia causing death was of the acute primary and influenzal type in all cases.

SCABIES.

Facilities for the treatment of cases of this skin infestation have now been greatly curtailed by the closing of the five First Aid Posts in the District. During the past few years these First Aid Posts have performed very useful work in this connection.

Many people with baths have preferred to treat themselves at home and have done so successfully after having the treatment explained to them and signs of overtreatment pointed out. The number of persons, who do not wish to be rid of this condition and who do not co-operate, is very few, but it is they who are responsible for the continuance of the problem in the community.

Most of the large colliery villages have modern houses with baths. In one of these villages, however, there is a large number of houses without effective arrangements for personal ablution. In this case the District or Parish Council might well consider making good the deficiency by communal provision.

During the year 723 cases of scabies came to the notice of this department, and of these 175 were adults and 548 children. This represents an increase of 171 cases over the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1944.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1 and under 5 years	1	—	2	4	1	—	—	2
5 and under 15 years	1	2	4	9	—	—	—	1
15 and under 25 years	9	7	1	—	2	2	—	1
25 and under 35 years	4	1	—	—	3	2	—	—
35 and under 45 years	5	2	1	—	1	1	—	—
45 and under 55 years	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
55 and under 65 years	2	1	—	—	6	—	—	1
Over 65 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	23	14	8	13	15	6	—	6

There were 58 new cases of tuberculosis (M. 31; F. 27) during 1944 compared with 56 in 1943, 53 in 1942, 59 in 1941, and an annual average of 66 for the five years prior to the War.

There were 27 deaths (M. 15; F. 12) certified as being due to various forms of tuberculosis, including 5 from meningitis. In nine of the fatal cases no notification had been received prior to death, but this number includes all the cases of meningitis, which is of relatively short duration.

At the beginning of the year there were 319 cases (M. 191; F. 128) on the register and on 31st December there were 341 (M. 202; F. 139).

In 1944 the death rate per 1,000 from all forms of tuberculosis in the Doncaster Rural District was 0.55 compared with 0.62 for England and Wales.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA.

AMBULANCES.

For accident and ordinary sick cases.

There are works ambulances at Askern, Markham Main, Rossington and Yorkshire Main Collieries and at Pilkington Brothers of Kirk Sandall.

Askern and Rossington Miners' Welfare Associations each maintain an ambulance within the District, while Brodsworth and Harworth Miners' Welfare Associations have subscribers to their ambulance services residing in the District.

During the year the Civil Defence ambulances supplemented the existing provision and I am able to give a summary of their journeys:—

274 journeys were made to the following hospitals:—

Doncaster Royal Infirmary	.....	251
Springwell House	.....	6
Mexborough Montagu Hospital	.....	3
Isolation Hospital, Balby	.....	2
Nursing Homes	.....	2
Wakefield Hospital	.....	1
Sheffield Royal Infirmary	.....	1
Hemsworth Hospital	.....	1
Fullerton Hospital, Denaby	.....	1
Miscellaneous	.....	6
Total		<hr/> 274

The journeys were made from the following parishes:—

Armthorpe	.....	83	Askern	.....	5
Barnborough	.....	4	Austerfield	.....	1
Barnby Dun	.....	1	Bawtry	.....	24
Blaxton	.....	1	Brodsworth	.....	6
Cantley	.....	1	Conisborough Parks	.....	3
Denaby	.....	1	Edlington	.....	106
Hickleton	.....	1	Marr	.....	1
High Melton	.....	1	Rossington	.....	2
Sprotborough	.....	15	Wadworth	.....	1
Warmsworth	.....	17			
Total		—	274		

At the time of writing this report the County Council have formulated a County Ambulance Service which has superseded the Civil Defence Ambulance Service. Use of the County Service can be obtained by telephoning Doncaster 2310, the charge for an ambulance being 1/6 per mile for the first 20 miles (1/- per mile thereafter) and a minimum charge of 7/6. Sitting case cars on a lower charge.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

All of these are run by the West Riding County Council.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There are ante-natal clinics held fortnightly at Armthorpe, Askern, Kirk Sandall, Edlington, Rossington and Sprotborough.

Child welfare clinics are held weekly at Armthorpe, Askern, Bawtry, Edlington, Kirk Sandall, Rossington and Sprotborough.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS.

These are held weekly at:—

20 Christ Church Road, Doncaster—

Monday—2 p.m. and 6-30 p.m.

Exchange Buildings, Mexborough—

Monday and Wednesday—10-30 a.m.

8 Goldthorpe Road, Thurnscoe—

Thursday—10 a.m.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS.

At Doncaster Royal Infirmary:—

Men

Tuesday—5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.

Friday—9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Friday—4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Women and Children

Monday—4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday—6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

HOSPITALS—GENERAL AND ACCIDENT.

Doncaster Royal Infirmary; Warde Aldam Cottage Hospital, South Elmsall; Doncaster, Pontefract and Hemsworth Public Assistance Hospitals.

Smaller numbers of patients from this district go to Leeds and Sheffield Infirmaries, Sheffield Children's Hospital (Western Bank).

MATERNITY.

Cases from Doncaster district of the West Riding go to Hamilton Lodge and Annexe, Doncaster; Mexborough Montagu Hospital; Listerdale Maternity Home, Wickersley; the Maternity Home, Lindrick.

Septic cases are accommodated at the Isolation Hospital, Tickhill Road, Doncaster.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Doncaster and Mexborough Joint Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals, Conisborough.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

In 1944 the Rural Housing Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee published its Third Report. The Minister of Health (vide-Circular 64/44) refers to it in the following terms:— “The Report is a comprehensive survey of the whole field of local authority housing in the rural areas of England and Wales. In its historical review and its frank and sympathetic analysis of the performance of housing authorities before the War, it seeks to be as helpful as possible to all those responsible for rural housing in the future.

The Report points out that it is imperative that the frequent inferiority of rural and particularly agricultural housing should not be allowed to persist after the War. A high proportion of the youth of the countryside is now serving in the Forces or in war industries. If housing conditions in many parts of the country continue to lag behind those in the large towns these young people on demobilisation will be tempted to seek urban employment and the countryside will be deprived of the best and most enterprising of its youth.”

Some of the recommendations of the Report have already been put into being. A Joint County Committee, with the principal functions of planning post-war housing standards and programmes, has been established and has already made important advances. A preliminary housing survey is nearing completion in this District.

With regard to the inspection of houses in such a manner as to ensure that each house is examined once in every five years, this has not been possible in the past with the staff available and the area of 115 square miles over which the houses are scattered. It is an object, however, which should be attained.

The Report draws attention to some financial and economic factors in rural areas which will have to be solved at a higher level before urban standards of hygiene and comfort are attained.

It must not be imagined that the country dweller wishes to attain all of the urban standards. He is quite willing to leave density of houses, noise and atmospheric pollution to the townsman and sympathise with him over his affliction.

It is interesting to note from the Report that 4,754 houses were built in the Doncaster Rural District between 1919 and 1939 or 37.6 per cent. of its total inhabited houses. Incidentally this is the largest percentage of new houses in any of the six most populous Rural Districts of England and Wales. Of the 4,754 new houses 639 were built by the Council, and 4,115 by private enterprise.

In undertaking the preliminary survey it was decided to concentrate on about 1,700 old cottages most likely to fall "below the standards of hygiene, amenity and comfort which might reasonably be expected" (to quote the Report). These cottages are situated mainly in the rural parishes or in the rural parts of the industrialised parishes.

In the first eight months of 1945 this structural survey was practically completed in a preliminary fashion and up to the present 271 houses have been provisionally classified as totally unfit and 645 as requiring major repairs on reconditioning.

The lack of labour and building materials and other restrictions during the War has of course contributed to this state of affairs.

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1944.

Number of new houses erected during the year	.....	4
(by Local Authority)		

Inspection and Notices:—

1. Number of inspections for repairs	.....	.....	317
2. Number of informal notices to repair	.....	.....	95
3. Number of statutory notices	.....	.....	17
4. Number of houses repaired	.....	.....	104

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

SCHOOLS.

In no instance was it necessary to close any school department or class on account of infectious disease during the year. The individual exclusion of contacts of infectious disease was carried out as a routine in the manner indicated by the joint memorandum of the Board of Education and Ministry of Health as recently amended.

Fourteen visits were made to schools in the district, principally for the prevention of infectious diseases.

The sanitary conditions of the schools are of a comparatively high level, even at several non-provided schools. Several of the latter, however, are now much out of date by modern standards. The outdoor sanitary arrangements at Wadworth have recently been improved, but much remains to be done to this school if conditions are ever to be described as satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLIES.

In a recent survey it was found that out of 13,026 premises on the rate books only 774 were without a piped water supply, which is on the whole a very satisfactory position in a district with an area of 115 square miles.

Out of 35 parishes only 4 (Fenwick, Kirk Bramwith, Moss and Thorpe-in-Balne) with 196 houses have no piped supply and 2 parishes (Blaxton and Awkley), with water mains in close proximity, have 43 out of 188 houses connected.

Most of the complaints about shortage of water come from these parishes, the most insistent being from farmers with dairy cattle. Some were received during the year.

Since the last report the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board mains have been extended in Blaxton from the railway crossing to a point on the Doncaster road beyond the Blue Bell Inn. The same mains have been extended in Rossington to a site for 50 houses.

The East Doncaster Estates Company, by arrangement with the Doncaster Corporation, have taken water to three farms and several cottages in the Gatewood Lane area of Cantley. In the same parish two wells, serving five cottages, were condemned and the dwellings connected individually to the mains.

At Levitt Hagg, Warmsworth, which is in the statutory area of supply of the Doncaster Corporation, water has to be taken twice weekly to roadside tanks for supply to about 14 cottages. This has been done for at least six years following the pollution of the local well by the infiltration of canal water.

Section 115, Public Health Act, 1936, states “A local authority who supply water under this Act shall secure that the water in any waterworks belonging to them from which water is supplied for domestic purposes is wholesome.” It is, therefore, an important duty to keep up a regular supervision of the quality of the water supplied to the consumer. The number of such samplings is generally determined by the past and present experience of the undertaking, by variations in quality, and unfortunately, because of limited staff, the number of consumers at risk.

The quality of the three principal supplies has been satisfactory. Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board's Supply was sampled 15 times for bacteriological analysis and on each occasion gave a satisfactory result. Doncaster Corporation Supply gave 13 satisfactory results from 13 samplings, and Pilkington Brothers 5 satisfactory results out of 5 samplings. Hooton Pagnell Estate Supply and Frickley Estate Supply were each sampled once for bacteriological analysis and gave results showing satisfactory quality.

Eleven private wells serving farms and cottages were similarly sampled and only four proved satisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health for small rural supplies.

A few years ago I drew attention to the small estate supply at Adwick-on-Dearne, which gave water of uncertain quality from time to time. It was agreed then that the only satisfactory solution was to extend the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board's mains from Harlington to replace the undertaking. While the claims of the unsupplied parishes will no doubt be very pressing immediately labour and materials become available, the Adwick-on-Dearne extension should not be forgotten.

Chemical analysis of water from local public supplies generally show little variation. The following represents the chemical constitution of Doncaster and Tickhill supply:—

			1. Received	2. Received
			19/1/44	25/7/44
General Composition.				
			Parts per 100,000	
Calcium Carbonate	.....	.....	6.40	6.90
Magnesium Carbonate	.....	.....	4.20	4.40
Sodium Chloride	.....	.....	2.00	2.00
Sodium Sulphate	.....	.....	1.30	1.33
Silica, Iron and Alumina	.....	.....	1.00	.90
Total Solids			14.90	15.53

(Carbonates present in solution as Bicarbonates).

				Parts per 100,000
Free Chlorine	.....	.....	.....	.02 None
Free Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.0007 .0007
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.0014 .0014
Nitrite Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	None None
Nitrate Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.20 .25
Lead, Copper, Zinc	.....	.....	.....	None None
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 80° F)				.011 .011
Total Hardness (all temporary)				
(Grains per gallon)	.....	.....	.....	11.0 12.0
pH	.....	.....	.....	7.2 7.2

This analysis shows the water to be entirely suitable for drinking and domestic use and to be of medium hardness.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. PENMAN, M.D.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

A. REYNOLDS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

SECTION C. (Continued).

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

STATEMENT made to the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and of Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, in relation to inspections, notices, etc.

Total number of inspections, 1944	.....	.....	.....	5,256
Nuisances reported during 1944 (including provision of pails and dustbins)	.....	.....	.....	820
Nuisances in hand	.....	.....	.....	10
Total number of nuisances	.....	.....	.....	830
Abated during 1944	.....	.....	.....	803
Outstanding at the end of 1944	.....	.....	.....	27

The total inspections above relate to:—

Nuisances	889	Meat and Food:	
Common Lodging Houses	1	Butchers' Shops	33
Vans and Sheds	74	Fish and Chip Shops	19
Shops Act	96	Bakehouses	22
Schools	26	Factories and	
Drainage	180	Workshops	47
Public Cleansing and		Infectious Diseases:	
Salvage	1,432	Disinfections	325
Water Supplies:		Investigations	85
Samples Taken	46	Infestations:	
Investigated	119	Bed Bugs	78
Milk and Dairies:		Other Vermin	21
Producers' Premises	286	Piggeries	21
Retailers' Premises	45	Foods (unsound)	169
Samples	22	Conversions	92
Housing:		Rats and Mice	139
Overcrowding	510	Scabies	15
Section 9	303	Air Raid Precautions	103
Section 11	14	Wartime Nurseries	12
Rehousing	32	Food Decontamination	12

INFORMAL NOTICES.

945 preliminary notices have been served relating to:—

Drainage and		Miscellaneous	27
Conversions	28	Housing Repairs	95
Nuisances, Dustbins		Shops	2
and Pails	767	Water Supplies	22
Cowsheds and Dairies	4		

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Houses disinfected	244
Rooms disinfected	311
School Notices sent	339

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Sections 10 and 13 (C).	
Number of visits paid	
during the year	96
Unsatisfactory conditions	
found	2
Remedied	2

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year 8 Council houses were found to be infested and were treated by Council employees. Other houses, owned by industrial companies, were treated privately.

78 visits were made to houses following infestations.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1944.

PARISH	No. of Inhabited Houses 31-12-44	Water Closets	Pail Closets	Privy Middens	Dustbins	Dry Ashpits	Cesspools
Parishes Closely Built.							
Armthorpe	1347	1360	25	4	1476	—	5
Askern	1427	1436	3	—	1472	—	1
Barnby Dun-w-Kirk Sandall ...	1162	1203	—	7	1233	—	8
Bawtry	370	353	9	25	392	4	1
Edlington	1439	1489	17	4	1550	—	6
Rossington	1800	1755	64	5	1750	—	6
Sprotborough	1628	1725	29	11	1764	—	201
Warmsworth	557	655	16	6	582	—	—
Total ...	9730	9976	163	62	10219	4	228
Parishes Closely Built In Parts.							
Austerfield	137	110	12	19	96	2	12
Barnborough	241	183	47	20	220	—	32
Blaxton	110	53	56	3	35	6	30
Braithwell	186	139	41	23	160	2	48
Brodsworth	562	493	71	4	648	—	59
Cadeby	32	4	17	10	20	4	1
Cantley	308	268	76	39	256	6	161
Denaby (Old)	55	15	36	7	45	—	15
Marr	33	3	29	1	39	—	—
Norton	503	239	84	80	451	—	54
Wadworth	161	36	80	51	107	—	7
Total ...	2328	1543	549	257	2077	20	419
Parishes Entirely Rural.							
Adwick-on-Deerne	36	19	15	6	36	1	4
Awkley	74	4	36	30	10	—	7
Burghwallis	53	31	20	2	55	—	18
Clayton-with-Frickley	68	16	25	28	26	6	1
Conisborough Parks	85	28	29	24	43	—	12
Fenwick	45	6	15	27	21	2	1
Hampole	52	16	30	4	28	2	8
Hickleton	36	30	13	—	10	28	1
Hooton Pagnell	80	23	55	—	98	—	1
Kirk Bramwith	50	6	30	14	20	2	4
Loversall	37	8	15	14	18	—	—
Melton (High)	65	51	8	6	64	—	—
Moss	69	4	37	28	10	—	3
Owston	44	8	23	16	40	—	8
Stainton	49	17	23	9	26	—	—
Thorpe-in-Balne	31	5	18	8	6	1	1
Total ...	874	272	392	216	511	42	69
Summary.							
Parishes Closely Built	9730	9976	163	62	10219	4	228
Parishes Closely Built in Parts ...	2328	1543	549	257	2077	20	419
Parishes Entirely Rural	874	272	392	216	511	42	69
Total ...	12932	11791	1104	535	12807	66	716

Conversions during the year :—

Privies reconstructed as water closets	2
Privies reconstructed as pail closets	26
Pail closets reconstructed as water closets	4
Water closets provided in new houses during 1944	4

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There was no extension of sewers and the position with regard to sewage disposal remains the same.

All works have been maintained in a satisfactory manner and without serious complaint from the West Riding Rivers Board.

REPORT UPON PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES.

The Council undertake public cleansing by direct labour in the whole of the thirty-five parishes. This includes the emptying and disposal of the contents of dustbins, pail closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools.

Street cleansing is carried out in the populous parishes of Armthorpe, Askern, Edlington, Rossington and Warmsworth.

Refuse disposal sites, either owned or rented by the Council, are situate at Askern (2), Armthorpe, Brodsworth, Bawtry, Cantley, Edlington and Rossington. A yearly contract was entered into with the West Riding War Agricultural Executive Committee Pest Department to keep the refuse tips free from rats. This has proved to be a very satisfactory arrangement.

The Public Cleansing Depot, situate at Sunnyside, Kirk Sandall, serves to garage all the Council's vehicles. A part of the building and some of the land adjoining is used to store the numerous commodities which form the Stores Department. Salvaged materials, now confined to waste paper, textiles and bones, are dealt with at the Depot, prior to sale.

Eight covered refuse collector vehicles, one open lorry and three motor vacuum cesspool emptiers are fully engaged on the various cleansing services. One Bedford vehicle was replaced by a new Karrier Bantam and the Council have given instruction for an additional cesspool emptier to be purchased.

The Works Committee has met regularly during the year to deal with matters arising under the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, 1942. Captain C. G. Y. Skipwith, J.P., Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, was again Chairman of the Works Committee, and Councillor R. E. Hughes, J.P., C.C., and Councillor W. A. Morris represented the Council. The staff had three representatives. Very useful work was done which resulted in goodwill and smooth working amongst the staff.

The collection of salvage showed a marked decrease during the year as will be seen from the following list.

SALVAGE.

COLLECTED AND SOLD DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1945.

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	.....	.....	124	—	2	—	801	9	2
Non-Ferrous Metals			—	3	1	20	4	18	2
Textiles	.....	.....	6	14	—	16	73	7	10
Bones	.....	.....	2	6	2	—	10	19	8
			133	4	2	8	890	14	10

Waste paper purchased
from other

organisations 8 9 — — 25 8 0

Total Income from Sales 865 6 10

The corresponding figures
for the year ended

31st March, 1944, were 277 19 3 — 1,339 5 0

WORK PERFORMED OTHER THAN PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year ended 31st March, 1945, the following
work has been carried out:—

					£	s.	d.
For Surveyor's Department—Carting of building materials, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	16	0
For Evacuation—Women's Voluntary Service	.....				7	10	0
					Total	49	6 0

COSTS.

The total cost of the public cleansing service was £16,793.

SECTION E.

MILK SUPPLIES.

The number of registrations under the Food and Drugs
Act, 1938, Part 2 (Milk and Dairies) is:—

Cowkeepers	.....	222	Producer Retailers	.....	57
Cowsheds	.....	267	Retail Purveyors	.....	18

Fifteen retail purveyors, with registered premises in
neighbouring districts, are licensed to sell milk in the Rural
District.

Number of cowshed inspections 286

Number of milk premises and vehicles inspected 45

Seventy-seven samples of ordinary milk were taken from
supplies produced in the Rural District. Of these thirty-eight
were satisfactory and thirty-nine did not comply with the
prescribed tests. The necessary action was taken in all cases
where the samples proved unsatisfactory.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1944.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN.

Causes of Death						Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	240	190
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	15	6
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	6
8. Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	6	5
10. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
13. Cancer of Mouth and Gullet (M) Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	4	9
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	8	3
15. Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	6
16. Cancer of all other Sites	...	...	...	...	...	16	16
17. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	...	18	24
19. Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	53	31
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
21. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	11	11
22. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	11	8
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	7	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
26. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4	10
28. Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	10	3
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
30. Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
31. Premature Births	...	...	...	...	...	8	6
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	10	8
33. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
35. Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	...	14	3
36. All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	26	15